



News From

JACK DOYLE

MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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DOYLE ANNOUNCES *FIRST* ROBOTICS COMPETITION

County Executive Jack Doyle today announced that the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science & Technology) High School Robotics Competition is scheduled for this **Saturday, October 21st from 1-3 pm at the Dome Arena.**

The FIRST competition teams-up corporate sponsors with high school students for a hands-on learning experience. This unique project shows students how "the basics," learned in school, are applied to "real life experiences" often faced by engineers on a daily basis. At the end of a six-week rapid development cycle, each team competes in the *NASCAR of Robotics*, culminating in a national competition held in Orlando, Florida. The primary goal of these competitions is to reinforce class work and to stimulate students to pursue careers in the science and technology fields.

"The FIRST competition gives students an opportunity to see that knowledge learned in the classroom can be directly related back to challenges faced in the real world," said Doyle. "In order to remain competitive in the global marketplace we need to find new and more creative ways to make science and technological learning exciting for the workforce of tomorrow."

Doyle invites the public to take a glimpse at the possible hi-tech future of interscholastic sports. Five teams of engineers, high school students and teachers from Rochester and Buffalo will compete on a playing field that resembles a futuristic gladiator ring. Robotic vehicles, operated by remote control will spar in a fun-filled, highly charged atmosphere of cyber-competition. Each team will bring their invention and know-how to the Dome Arena to see who has the right stuff!

The County is helping to sponsor this techno-competition to inspire more structured partnerships between local hi-tech companies and area schools. Over 800 local companies have been invited to come witness the fun, excitement and learning that are a part of FIRST Teams. An equal number of middle and high school teachers and students have also been invited to experience this valuable school-business partnership.

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“Engineering and science technologies are the bedrock of our local industrial economy and I want to encourage an increase of school-business partnerships, such as FIRST, to provide our local students with hands-on experiences, while exposing them to new and emerging technologies and careers,” said Doyle.

The FIRST competition event is free and open to the public (students must be accompanied by an adult).

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*For further information, call:
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